

# Developing a Peer-Reviewed Open Access Journal for Pennsylvania Librarians

**Pennsylvania Libraries: *Research & Practice***

(palrap.org)

## Recognizing a Need

### A Library Association Looking for an OA Journal Publisher



Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA) members wanted to share more knowledge among library professionals.

## Creating a Partnership

### A Library Publishing Program Looking for Content



The University Library System at Pitt is an Open Access library-based publisher. It currently publishes 35 scholarly journals with editorial teams worldwide.

## Getting Started

### Having the idea is only the beginning

- Define the journal's focus/scope
- Find your publisher fit
- Engage membership to participate
  - Recruit the editorial team
  - Solicit peer reviewers
  - Encourage submissions
- Design the look of the journal
- Learn the software platform
- Develop editorial policies & best practices

#### Publisher provides:

- Hosting, support, & expertise using Open Journal Systems (OJS) platform from Public Knowledge Project (PKP)
- Graphic design (website & article templates)
- DOI registration
- Coordinating indexing services (e.g., EBSCO)
- Publishing experience & best practices

#### PaLA membership provides:

- Authors
- Peer reviewers
- Readers
- Editorial team
- Financial support

## Growing Together

PaLA, the editorial team, authors, readers, & peer reviewers are invested in *PaLRaP's* success

- Began with a focus on *Research & Practice* articles from academic librarians
- Now includes *Commentaries, Features, & News*
- Contributions from information professionals in public, school, & other types of libraries
- Training for copy & layout editors

## Looking Ahead

The publisher has been responsive to our ideas & interests

- Accepting donations & payments
- Rolling issues
  - Releasing articles as soon as ready
- Usage statistics & article-level metrics
- Print on Demand for
  - Archiving
  - Author copies
  - Readers who prefer print
  - Revenue

